



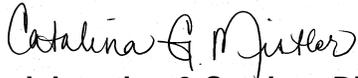
# OPERATIONS MEMO

Update of the California Student Aid Commission

May 31, 2012

GOM 2012-19

**TO:** Financial Aid Administrators

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**SUBJECT:** 2012-13 Cal Grant Awards Update

This Operations Memo updates schools on the following 2012-13 Cal Grant award processes:

- Competitive Cal Grant A and B Awards
- Updated Cal Grant C Process
- Updated Grant Roster Layout

## Competitive Cal Grant A and B Awards

The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) has completed the selection of the March 2 Competitive Cal Grant A and B award offers. Potential Competitive Cal Grant awardees will be notified by e-mail and advised to use [WebGrants for Students](#) (WGS) for further information on their Cal Grant status. The communication to students will contain warnings that the Cal Grant award offer and the amounts are dependent upon approval of the final State budget. The WGS also displays additional messages on the Governor's proposed budget changes to the Cal Grant program.

For the March 2 Competitive Cal Grant program cycle, over 158,000 financially eligible applicants were considered for 11,250 Competitive awards. As in prior years, applicants not only must meet general Cal Grant A and B eligibility criteria, but also are scored based on their household size and income, parent's educational level, household status, access equalizer, and grade point average (GPA). Applicants with a score of 165 or above were offered a tentative award. To assist you in advising your students, you may view a breakdown of their Cal Grant scores by selecting the "Score Detail" button on the Student Award Detail screen on WebGrants.

## Cal Grant C Process

Students identified with potential Cal Grant C eligibility will receive an e-mail notification to complete the Cal Grant C Supplement online in WGS. A [paper Supplement](#) is also available for students to download. All students selected to



receive the Cal Grant C Supplement will have 30 days from the date we mail the notification to complete the form. Upon acceptance of the Supplement data, the Commission will score and rank the applicants to select the 7,761 authorized Cal Grant C awards for the 2012-13 academic year.

The Cal Grant C selection process has changed for the 2012-13 year due to the passage of Senate Bill (SB) 451. This bill requires the Commission to give priority in granting Cal Grant C awards to students pursuing occupational or technical training in areas that meet at least two of the following criteria:

- (A) High employment need
- (B) High employment salary or wage projections
- (C) High employment growth

SB 451 requires the Commission to determine which occupational programs meet the above requirements by consulting with the Employment Development Department (EDD) and by using the occupational data and projections available through the EDD Labor Market Information Data Library. After thorough research, consultation, and testing, the Commission determined the following thirteen occupations meet at least two of the three criteria listed above, and therefore, they have now been deemed "priority" occupations:

SOC Code	Occupation
23-2011	Paralegals and Legal Assistants
29-1111	Registered Nurses
15-1041	Computer Support Specialists
15-1099	Computer Specialists, All Other
47-2031	Carpenters
35-2014	Cooks, Restaurant
33-2011	Fire Fighters
29-2061	Licensed Practical and Licensed Vocational Nurses
25-2011	Preschool Teachers, Except Special Education
43-6013	Medical Secretaries
49-3023	Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics
39-9031	Fitness Trainers and Aerobics Instructors
33-3051	Police and Sheriff's Patrol Officers

If a student indicates the selection of one of these thirteen priority occupations on the Supplement, he/she will receive 35 points for that selection, thereby increasing the chances of obtaining a Cal Grant C award. With the addition of the priority occupation points, the Cal Grant C scoring has expanded to a total of 100 points based on the following factors:

1. Work History – 25 points
2. Education History – 25 points
3. Grade Point Average – 15 points
4. Occupational Priority – 35 points (*Added in 2012-13 award year*)

Both the Cal Grant C Supplement in WGS and the paper form have been changed this year to reflect the EDD standard occupational classification (SOC) codes and the corresponding occupations.

**Grant Rosters**

Rosters displaying all 2012-13 award recipients are now available on WebGrants. Students selected for Entitlement awards will show in the “Eligible” section of the roster. Schools may now process school change transactions. Please remember that schools may not report payment transactions for the 2012-13 academic year until early August.

The Grant Roster Record Layout (enclosed) has also been updated to include the recently added “Asset Hold Flag.” The asset hold flag procedure is set to run for academic year 2012-13 applicants in early June. A separate Grant Operations Memo (GOM) will be released then with more details about the procedure. For background information on asset holds and verification, please refer to [GOM 2011-24](#), released on August 22, 2011.

If you have any questions regarding this update, please contact the Commission’s School Support staff at (888) 294-0153 or at [schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov](mailto:schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov).

Enclosure: Grant Roster Record Layout

*Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!*